

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 10B has been amended. Support for the amendment is found in Figure 10A and from the specification on page 33, line 15 to page 34, line 5.

A Replacement Sheet is provided.

An Annotated Marked-up Drawings sheet is provided.

REMARKS

The Office Action is described in detail below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

Claims 1,7-9 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Harshfield (US 6,031,287).

Claims 1, 7-9 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Gonzalez et al (US 5,854,102).

Claims 1,7-9 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Ovshinsky et al (US 5,414,271).

Claim Rejections 35 USC 103

Claims 10,11 are rejected under 35 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harshfield (US 6,031,287).

Claims 10,11 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ovshinsky et al (US 5,414,271).

Applicant's claim 1 has been amended to recite:

1. A method of making an electrically programmable memory element, comprising:

 providing a first dielectric layer, said first dielectric layer having an opening, said opening having a sidewall surface and a bottom surface;

 forming a conductive layer on said sidewall surface and said bottom surface;

 removing at least a portion of said conductive layer from said bottom surface;

 forming a second dielectric layer on said conductive layer within said opening; and

 forming a programmable resistance material in electrical communication with said conductive layer.

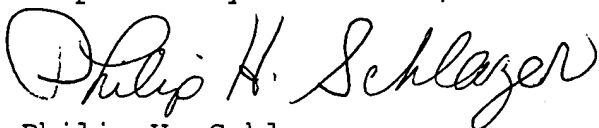
Neither Harshfield, Gonzalez and/or Ovshinsky, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest applicants' limitation "...removing at least a portion of said conductive layer from said bottom surface..."

The rejections under 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103 are overcome and applicants' request they be removed.

SUMMARY

In view of the above amendments and remarks, claims 1 and 7-9, 16-53 are in condition of allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and notification of allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or suggestions regarding the prosecution of this application, he is asked to contact applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

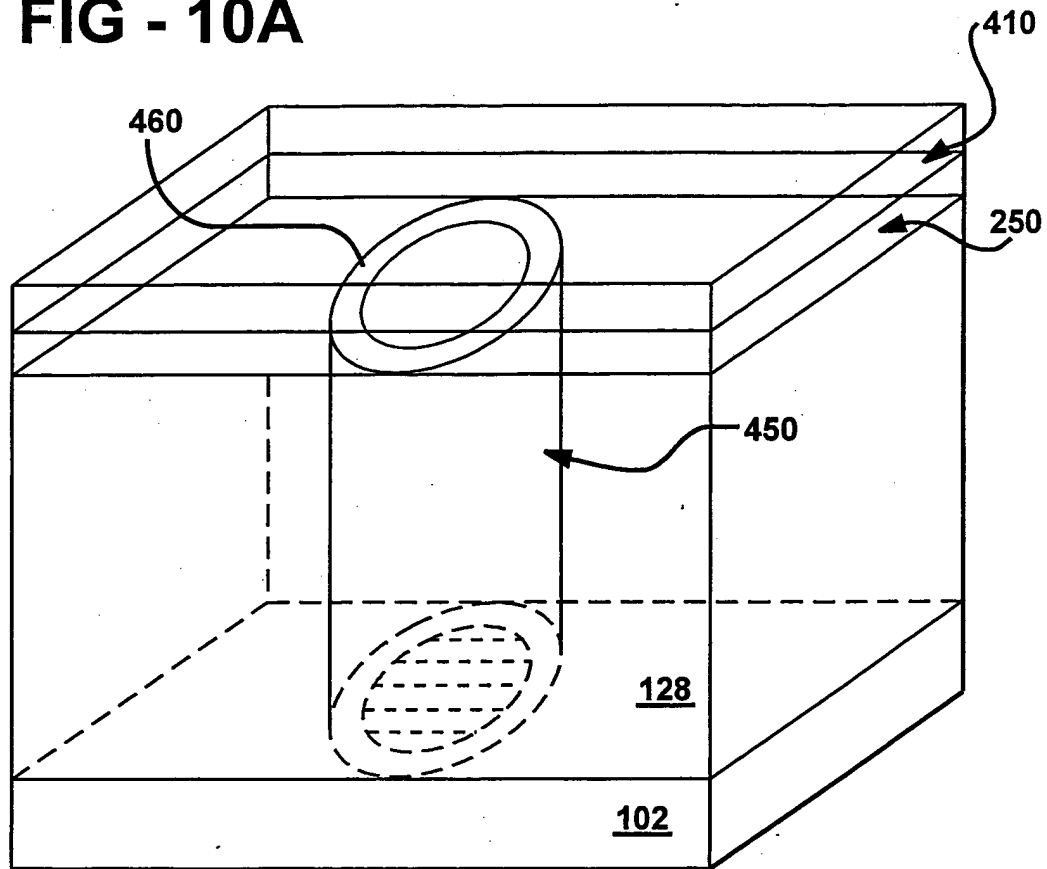
Respectfully submitted,



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**FIG - 10A****FIG - 10B**